

H.C. Barleigh papers

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King Billy's Medal Family Heirloom

Shelburne, July 7.—When the beat of the drums and the shrill of the pipes herald the celebration of the Battle of the Boyne here Saturday this Dufferin

County centre will have in its midst a remarkable symbol of that day in 1690.

It is a silver medal, awarded to Adam de Leone, a bodyguard

of William of Orange, who saved the life of his master on the battlefield during that day 265 years ago. The medal, handed from family to family through more than eight generations, is now a prized heirloom belonging to Mrs. Matilda Exley, whose family name was Lane.

"Adam de Leone was a Spaniard," explained Mrs. Exley. "He met William of Orange in Holland and became one of his personal bodyguards. Tradition tells us he saved his master's life on the field during the Battle of the Boyne, and the medal was one of the rewards for his feat."

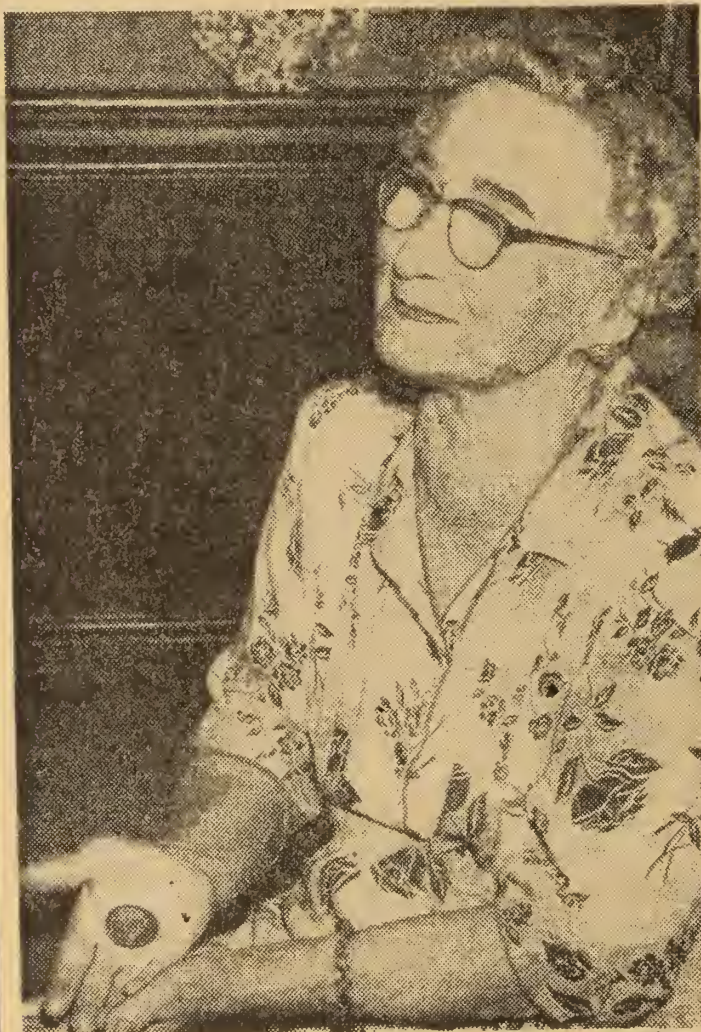
De Leone married and settled in the south of Ireland. The name became shortened to Leone and finally was completely Anglicized to Lane.

A hundred years or more ago several members of the Lane clan came to Canada and settled as pioneers in the village of Denbigh, near Renfrew, where they helped build a church and school.

Mrs. Exley married and moved to Napanee, then to Toronto for 27 years before coming to Shelburne several years ago.

"We don't know today the actual details of how our ancestors saved King Billy's life," she declared, "since the story was never written. But we have been told it may be recorded in Burke's Peerage, which is supposed to contain a history of the Lane family."

In spite of their historic connection with the man whose prowess on the battlefield is being celebrated here Saturday, few of the Lane family have been members of the Orange Order. But Mrs. Exley's son George will be in the parade here as a member of the drum section in Shelburne Citizens' Band.



Mrs. Exley holds medal awarded to her ancestor

Globe & Mail
8 July 1955

Lane

Lane John vits ^{May 6} ~~3.6.1804~~ Lake (?)
Benjamin vts ^{Feb 7} ~~2.7.1812~~ (Lake?)

U. E. list & supp - nil

loy. Claim.

John, Ballstown J. Chalmer

330

loy. Claim witness - nil

L. B. O

nil

John Lane

so. Maryborough

Queen R. Lane

witnessed Indenture

1840

(see Richards File)

St George

Aug 26

sp. 8.26.1810

P. B. Q

nil.

Commissioners for Conspiracies
Albany County

15th Sept. 1778

Ann Lane and Ann Liddle appeared before the Board
and requested Permission to go with their Families to
Canada Ordered that they be informed that the Board
will take their Request into Consideration

22 June 1779

Anthony Lane is said to be member of a Robber gang

McDowall's Register

Joseph Lane & Elizabeth Spencer, both of Richmond 14 Oct 1803

Ezekiel Palen & Mary Lane, both of Hallowell 7 June 1808

John Lane & Ery Richards do 28 Apr 1818

Sons & Daughters of U. E.

Eleanor dau. of Queen Richards & wife of (John) Lane O.S. 25 Feb 1818

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